Good News For Homemakers

By Shirley W. Walton
Extension Agent

Potatoes & Sweetpotatoes

Potatoes do not freeze especially well. French fries are the most satisfactory frozen potato product. Boiled potatoes can be frozen but there will be a loss of quality. It will cost more in time and energy to freeze potatoes than one could ever save.

Another factor to consider in deciding whether or not to freeze potatoes has to do with the cost of freezing. USDA research has disclosed that the cost of freezing a pound of food ranges from 9 to 19 cents depending on the total amount of food frozen. The lower cost is achieved when turnover is great. These cost figures include the cost of owning and operating a freezer and of packaging material, but not the food itself. The cost of freezing may exceed the value of the food.

Frozen French Fries

Select medium to large potatoes. Pare and cut lengthwise into uniform strips about 3/8 inch thick. Rinse quickly in cold water to remove surface starch. Dry thoroughly with towels.

Fill the fry basket one-third full of fat or oil, and heat to 375 degrees F., keeping the fry basket in the fat.

Raise basket and add raw potato strips to cover the bottom of basket. Don't overload the frying basket. Raw potato strips are high in moisture content and when too many are put into the hot fat, the temperature drops excessively. This slows cooking and allows the strips to absorb more fat.

Lower basket gently into fat. Fry for about 4 minutes or until strips are cooked but not brown.

Remove basket from fat and drain. Turn parfries onto paper towels or other absorbent paper. Cool to room temperature. Pack cooled strips in cartons or plastic bags. Seal. Freeze; store at 0 degrees F. or below.

To use, thaw and brown in hot fat or leave frozen and brown in oven or broiler.

Freezing New Potatoes

Boil until barely tender. Pack in plastic bags. Seal. Freeze; store at 0 degrees or below.

Canning Potatoes

Wash potatoes. Peel and cut into ½-inch cubes. Dip cubes in brine (1 teaspoon salt to 1 quart water) to prevent darkening. Drain.

Cook potatoes for 2 minutes in boiling water. Drain.

Pack hot potatoes in jars. Add ½ teaspoon salt to pint jars; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Cover with boiling water, leaving ½-inch headspace. Remove air bubbles by running spatula or knife between jar and food. Adjust jar lids.

Process in pressure canner at 10 pounds pressure (240 degrees F.). Pint jars - 35 minutes; quart jars - 40 minutes.

Storing Potatoes

Potatoes can be stored rather satisfactorily for at least short periods of time without processing. Dig potatoes carefully and remove them from the garden to prevent sun and wind damage. Cure by holding potatoes in moist air for 1 to 2 weeks at 60 degrees to 75 degrees F. The curing heals skinned areas and small cracks, and thus helps to prevent decay. A storage temperature of 60 degrees F. is ideal for keeping early potatoes 4 to 6 weeks. A lower storage temperature of 35 degrees and 40 degrees F. is desirable for winter storage of late potatoes.

Potatoes stored at about 35 degrees F. for several months tend to become sweet. This can usually be corrected by holding the potatoes at about 70 degrees F. for a week or two before use.

Canning Sweetpotatoes

Wash sweetpotatoes. Sort for size. Boil or steam just until skins skip easily. Skin and cut in pieces.

Pack hot sweetpotatoes into jars. Add ½ teaspoon salt to pint jars; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Cover with boiling water or medium sirup (3 cups sugar dissolved in 4 cups water), leaving 1-inch headspace. Remove air bubbles by running spatula or knife between food and jar. Adjust jar lids.

Process in pressure canner at 10 pounds pressure (240 degrees F.). Pint jars - 55 minutes; quart jars - 90 minutes.

The small amount of salt used adds flavor but may be omitted.

Freezing Sweetpotatoes

Choose medium to large mature sweetpotatoes that have been cured. Sort according to size and wash.

Cook until almost tender in water, in steam, in a pressure cooker, or in the oven. Let stand at room temperature until cool. Peel sweetpotatoes; cut in halves, slice, or mash.

To prevent darkening, use an ascorbic acid mixture or orange or lemon juice.

Pack into containers, leaving ½-inch headspace. Seal. Freeze; store at 0 degrees F. or below.

Storing Sweetpotatoes

Sweetpotatoes that are well matured, carefully handled, and properly cured can be kept for several months at 55 degrees to 60 degrees F.

Cure freshly dug sweetpotatoes by holding them for about 10 days under moist conditions at 80 degrees to 85 degrees F. If you have to cure at temperatures of 65 degrees to 75 degrees, extend the curing period to 2 to 3 weeks.

Sweetpotatoes are subject to damage by chilling at temperatures of 50 degrees or below.

If you have a homemaking question or problem, please call 352-8244 or write P.O. Box 488, Appomattox, Va. 24522.

It is a pleasure to hear from and help you. Have a good week!

Recipe of the Week
Impossible Quiche

12 slices bacon (½ pound) crisply fried and crumbled
1 cup shredded natural Swiss cheese
½ cup finely chopped onion
2 cups milk
½ cup biscuit mix
4 eggs
¼ teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon Pepper

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease 9 or 10 inch pie plate. Sprinkle bacon, cheese and onion evenly over bottom of pie plate. Place remaining ingredients in blender container. Cover and blend on high speed 1 minute. Pour into pie plate. Bake until golden brown and knife inserted in center comes out clean, 50 to 55 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes before cutting. Refrigerate any leftover quiche. 6 servings.

APPOMATTOX COUNTY EXTENSION
Homemakers' Calendar

Tues., Sept. 4 - Meadowlark, 7:30 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 6 - Oakville-1 p.m.; Rocks, 7:30 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 10 - Bethany 7:30 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 12 - Lee-I:30 ; Five County Fair Fashion Revue
Thurs., Sept. 13 - Stonewall 1:30, Spout Spring, 7:30 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 17 - County Line - 7:30 p.m.
Tues., Sept. 18 - Appomattox, 10 a.m.; Country Lane, 7:30 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 19 - Wreck Island, 1:30 p.m.; Henny Penny, 7 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 20 - Spout Spring Progressive, 7 p.m.; Pamplin, 7:30; Landscape Workshop Ext. Office, 10 a.m.
Thurs., Sept. 27 - Leader Training, 1:30 p.m.
Extension Office Meeting Room.

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Speeding Arrest Up 32 Percent

RICHMOND - Speeding arrests were up 32 percent through July over a similar period last year and, according to the Virginia State Police, Labor Day weekend arrests may push this percentage even higher.

State Troopers will be once again participating in Operation C.A.R.E. - an acronym for Combined Accident Reduction Effort - with 15 other states from Maine to Florida. Virginia's part in the program involves an increased number of troopers patrolling the State's interstate highway system.

"We primarily increase our patrols," says Colonel D. M. Slane, Department Superintendent, "to give us greater visibility and thus encourage greater motorist voluntary compliance with Virginia's traffic laws. Our objectives are fewer accidents, injuries and fatalities.

"However, our experience with this program does indicate we issue a high number of speeding summonses and we assist a lot of motorists who are in need of our help."

During the Memorial Day holiday period, May 25-28, troopers issued more than 5,000 speeding summonses and assisted 529 motorists. And over the July 4th holiday, 2,720 speeding summonses were issued and 1,484 motorists assisted.

Historically, the Labor Day holiday period has been one of the most tragic in terms of highway fatalities. A tally of the past 10 years indicates that more persons have been killed over the Labor Day week end than any other major holiday - a total of 196 fatalities. Last year, 21 persons lost their lives during this week end.

The State Police, noting the current increase in speeding arrests and the past history of Labor Day fatalities, point out the correlation of speeding to fatalities. In 42.9 percent of all fatal crashes last year, speed - either excessive or too fast for conditions - was a contributing factor.

"While the Department of Highways and Transportation recently reported that travel in the State had shown some reduction last month, we expect substantial travel during the Labor Day weekend," said Colonel Slane. "It is the end of the summer vacations for many and an opportunity for one more lone weekend for others."

Driving defensively and obeying all traffic laws including the maximum speed limit laws could help assure motorists that the "one more long weekend" won't be their last.

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TIMES-VIRGINIAN

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

2 SECTIONS - 20 PAGES

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Father Darkleaf

BY
CALVIN ROBINSON

Labor Day on Martha Street. So quiet I can almost hear ants running across the sidewalk. Holiday for most everyone. No local parade and easy to find parking space. Of the two kinds of workers, white collar and blue collar, guess I am a white collar worker in a blue collar garden. Next holiday, Columbus Day. Then Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

• • •

Big event for ACHS this Friday. Opening football game with the Raiders at Gretna. And college teams swing into action this week-end. Everyone has a favorite team but we unite in wishing all state teams a successful season. Big game? Maybe on Nov. 10, VPI at Virginia.

• • •

Let us chat a bit about football. I came across an article about the career of the late Walter Camp, Yale '80, held by many to be the father of modern football. Princeton and Rutgers staged the first intercollegiate football game in 1869, but the game really goes back to England and soccer and rugby. Early games were played with a round ball of black rubber. And there were countless variations. There is a plaque at Rugby reading... "This stone commemorates the exploit of William Webb Ellis who with a fine disregard for the rules of football as played in his time first took the ball in his arms and ran with it....A. D. 1823." Early teams had fifteen players on each side, but a touring Eton team visited Yale in 1873 and showed up four players short and the result was a new rule of eleven on each side. Also in early days of football the players would assemble on the field and the official would roll in the ball and there would result a wild struggle for possession. Camp got the game organized into linesmen and backfield players, and invented the "yards and downs" system. A Princeton official came up with the name "gridiron" as his impression of the playing field lined off with lines and markers. In early games a goal kicked from afield was five points, a goal kicked after touchdown was four points and a touchdown itself only two points. The game became increasingly rough, with so many injuries that in 1905 the Army-Navy game was called off and President Theodore Roosevelt called a conference to set up new rules and standards. Then came the forward pass. Gradually the modern game evolved and became big business. Names like Rockne, Stagg, Grange, and literally thousands adorn its history. High school, college, pro., countless bowl games, leasing up to the Super Bowl among the pros, and by the way, Walter Camp originated slection of an All-American team.

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Sports has a language of its own. When an announcer says the score is 2 zip it is two to nothing. And 64205 is not a telephone number, but a player who is six foot four inches tall and weighs 205 pounds.

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Must not forget to mention crape myrtle in bloom all around town. I have six, all in bloom. Varying sizes but all much taller than last year.

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Bulb planting time, for next Spring's flowers.

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And sign-off time for this time around. Thanks for reading and seeya next week.

Governor John Dalton

To Serve As Grand Marshall At Railroad Festival Here

The Board of the Seventh Annual Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival is pleased to announce that Governor John Dalton will be serving as Grand Marshall for the Kick-Off Parade to be held October 13, 1979 in Appomattox, Virginia.

John Dalton was born in Emporia, Virginia, on July 11, 1931, and educated in the public schools of the City of Radford, Virginia.

Governor Dalton was graduated from The College of William and Mary with an A.B. degree in 1953. At William and Mary he served as president of the Junior Class, president of the Student Body, was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, and received the Carr award as the most outstanding graduate based on scholarship and leadership. From 1960 to 1966 he served on the Board of Directors of the William and Mary Alumni Association and as vice president of the Board in 1966. In 1974, he received the William and Mary Alumni Medallion.

Governor Dalton received his J.D. degree from the Law School of the University of Virigina in 1957 following his service in the United States Army as a First Lieutenant of Artillery. Since 1957, he has practiced law in Radford. His former partners in the firm include his father, Federal Judge Ted Dalton; Federal Judge James C. Turk; State Supreme Court Justice Richard H. Poff.

Governor Dalton's political career began with his election to the House of Delegates from the Sixth District in 1965. Re-elected three times, he served on major committees of the House of Delegates including Appropriations, as well as the Virginia Advisory Legislative Council. He was elected to the State Senate from the 37th Senatorial District in 1972. Among his legislative accomplishments, John Dalton served on the Court System Study Commission and was chief

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CLERK'S OFFICE TO OPEN SATURDAY A.M.

The Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Appomattox County will be open Saturday, September 8, from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon, according to Mrs. Barbara Williams, Clerk, for the purpose of selling hunting and fishing license only.

Dove Season Opens Sept. 8

Colonel John McLaughlin, Chief of the Game Commission's Law Enforcement Division, has reminded sportsmen and women that the first portion of the split season for dove hunting in Virginia is scheduled to begin at noon and close at sunset on Saturday, September 8, 1979. Thereafter the season will continue through November 3, 1979 under the same operating hours. The second section of the dove season begins at noon each day beginning on December 22, 1979, closes at sunset each day through January 3, 1980. The bag limit for doves is 12 birds per day, 24 in possession.*

(*Possession limits apply to transportation of game killed on more than one day.)

ACHS Boosters Club To Meet Tonight

The Appomattox County High School Boosters Club will have its first meeting of the new year tonight, Thursday, at 7:30 p.m. in the A.C.H.S. Library.

All members, prospective members and interested persons are invited to attend.

Yearly dues to the Boosters Club should be paid at this meeting or as soon after as possible.

School Board To Meet Sept. 12th

The Appomattox County School Board will meet in regular session on Wednesday, September 12, 1979, at 3 p.m. in the school board office on Main Street.

Items on the agenda will include: report on 1979-80 school session, consideration of Special Education Advisory and Eligibility Committees for 1979-80, review of procedures related to students participating in electricity program in Campbell County, report on status of kindergarten children regarding immunizations and physicals, and report on project approved for elementary emotionally disturbed class.

Raiders Open Season Friday Night at Gretna

The Appomattox County High School Raiders will open their football season Friday night when they travel to Gretna for the opening Seminole District game.

Leading the Raiders will be Gus Paulette, Darrell Schrock and Terry Woods, Tri-Captains for the season.

Appomattox fans are encouraged to follow the Raiders to Gretna and give them the support they deserve.

Historical Society Honors Peter Francisco

The life of Peter Francisco will be featured at the September meeting of Appomattox Historical Society. Members and guests will have a picnic on grounds adjacent to the Babcock Family Cemetery at 6:30 P.M., September 10, 1979. The Statham homestead formerly the home of the Widow West and Peter Francisco, the site of the West Family Cemetery, is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carr, of Richmond.

The guest speaker for the meeting, Dr. Mervyn W. Williamson, a native of Appomattox County and former president of Appomattox Historical Society, is Head of the English Department of Lynchburg College. A graduate of the University of Texas and Lynchburg College, Dr. Williamson is a former faculty member of the University of Texas and Culver-Stockston College, Canton, Missouri.

The son of Ruth Marsh and the late Billy Williamson, Mervyn, a student of local history has done much research on the life of Peter Francisco.

Francisco, the mysterious lad with silver buckles and blue satin britches was left on the dock at City Point (Hopewell) as a young lad. He grew up in Buckingham County at Hunting Tower where he was apprenticed to Colonel Anthony Winston as a blacksmith. Colonel Winston, the brother of Sarah Winston, was Patrick Henry's Uncle. Thus, Francisco was reared in an environment of colonials who exposed him to the ways of political leadership.

Dr. Williamson, an ordained minister of the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ is married to Rhoda Lott of Laredo, Texas. They are the parents of four children: Mervyn, Jr., an associate editor for a well - known magazine; Rhoda Baker of Chicago, formerly of Iran; Joe William, Wilmington, North Carolina; and Allen, a senior at Lynchburg College.

Appomattox citizens who are interested in Peter Francisco are invited to the meeting. Members and guests are asked to join the picnic with food, silver and a chair. Watermelons will be furnished by the Society.

Family Day at Pamplin

Community Center Was Big Success

The Pamplin Community Center "Family Day" held on August 25th and sponsored by the Pamplin Ruritan Club was a big success.

Opening at 2 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States, there were games for all age groups including horseshoes, greased watermelon, melon relay races, dunking tank, greased pole, pie eating contest, and a number of games of chance or skill.

The dunking tank was manned by Jerry Womack, then Aulden Roach and finally by Frank Sweet. All three are members of the Pamplin Ruritan Club. The dunking tank is where a person sits on a perch and if a thrown ball hits its target, the person sitting on the perch lands in water in the tank. Balls were thrown by about 300 people. One three-year old boy managed to hit the target two out of three times.

The greased pole was hard to beat - but the $10.00 bill at the top (donated by Moses Motor Company) made the trying worth while. After several hours, it was picked off by Jeff Drinkard of Oakville. Watermelons were contributed by Raymond Dickerson. Ronnie Napier of Red House was the pie eating winner. Chocolate meringue pies were donated by members of the Ruritan Club.

Games of skill were operated under the supervision of Mrs. Joe Johnson and were well attended. Members of the club gave her a hand with the games. Prizes were scheduled to be awarded every 30 minutes. Sixty-six donors gave fine prizes. They were contributed by individuals and friends who operate businesses. Some of the prizes went to contest winners and toward the end of the program drawings were made until all prizes were awarded. The best group of prizes generally found were donated for an occasion like this. The Ruritan Club thanks all persons donating prizes.

Mrs. Jim (Grace) Williams brought her two horses to the center in order to let youngsters have rides on them. She was quite busy until time for the sky dive at 5:00 p.m. The income from this venture was added to other income for debt retirement. There were about 80 riders.

Toward the end of the day, there was a drawing for a fine quilt made and donated by the Ruritan Club by Mrs. Jim Williams. It was to be used to help raise funds for the Community Center debt reduction. The quilt was won by Mrs. Robert (Grace) Miner of Pamplin.

There was a game between two teams of the 1979 Dixie Youth Baseball Association, Minor League. The teams were Appomattox and Pamplin and

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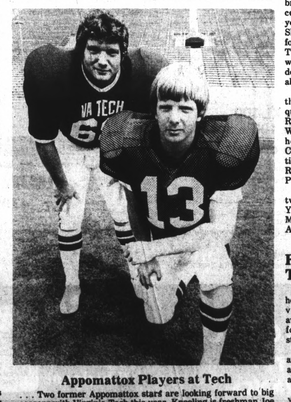
Football Season Tickets Available

Season tickets, for the five home games of the Raider varsity football team, are available now at a cost of $10.00 for adults and $5.00 for students.

The tickets may be purchased at the A.C.H.S. office, the athletic department or from athletic boosters club members.

The first home game, Raiders vs William Campbell, will be Sept. 14.



Appomattox Players at Tech

. . . Two former Appomattox stars are looking forward to big seasons with Virginia Tech this year. Kneeling is freshman Joe Fraley, and standing is sophomore Phil Jamerson.

Gov. Dalton and His Cabinet Will Hold Open Meeting September 11th

Governor John N. Dalton and the members of his Cabinet will hold the next in their series of Open Cabinet Meetings at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 11, at Heritage High School, 3020 Wards Ferry Road, Lynchburg.

In addition to the Governor and his six Cabinet members, Lieutenant Governor Charles S. Robb and Attorney General Marshall Coleman will participate in the meeting that is open to all citizens.

The Open Cabinet meetings are held in keeping with a campaign promise by Governor Dalton to bring state government closer to the people.

Like other such sessions held around the state, the meeting in Lynchburg will give residents of a wide area an opportunity to question and criticize government actions and make suggestions for changes in government policy.

Typically, Open Cabinet meetings produce citizen comments on a variety of topics, including schools, sewage and water facilities, taxes and gasoline and other fuel shortages. Any citizen can speak and ask questions directly of the Governor and the other public officials with him. Those who wish to speak may sign up at the meeting. Doors will open at 7:15 p.m. for early arrivals.

Before the meeting, local elected officials and the state officials will attend a 6:30 p.m. Dutch Treat dinner in the Heritage High School cafeteria.

Appomattox is one of the counties included in the area served by the Tuesday meeting in Lynchburg.

4-H BIG EVENT- Dr. Jerry Falwell, pastor of the Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, gives the invocation to open last Saturday's fund raising event at the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center. Over 400 attended, including members of the General Assembly, local Boards of Supervisors members, and administrators. Behind Falwell are leaders of the 4-H Center, and of the Extension Division at Virginia Tech.

Large Crowd Attended 1st Annual "4-H Big Event"

An estimated 400 persons turned out for the first annual "Big Event" fund raising effort at the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center Saturday, Aug. 24.

They heard Alden Aaroe, vice president and public service director for WRVA, Richmond, pay tribute to those who had worked to make the Holiday Lake 4-H youth center a reality.

Dr. Jerry Falwell, pastor of the Thomas Road Baptist Church, Lynchburg, gave the invocation. Robert R. Feagans, vice president of the Holiday Lake Center Board of Directors, served as master of ceremonies.

Virginia Tech's Extension Division was represented not only by local extension agents, but by W. R. Van Dresser, dean of the Extension Division at Virginia Tech; Ann E. Thompson, associate dean; and Ken Dawson, state director of 4-H.

County 4-H club members operated various concessions to raise money for the Center. There were also several safety demonstrations. Included were a bicycle safety demonstration by the Virginia Highway Safety Commission and a boating safety demonstration by the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries.

A number of distinguished local guests were present, including members of the General Assembly, local boards of supervisors, and administrators.

Charlie A. Elliott, program leader for 4-H in the East Central Extension district said, "We were very happy that the weather cooperated so well. We had a large and enthusiastic crowd for this first Big Event and we consider it a great success. Our thanks go to all those who helped make it such an enjoyable day."

Jimmie Bryan, Lynchburg, is chairman of the fund raising effort for the Holiday Lake 4-H Center. Leaders of the center include; Mrs. W. Goode Robinson, Lynchburg, president; Robert Feagans, Amherst, vice president; Preston Wilson, Lynchburg, treasurer; and Shirley Walton, Appomattox, secretary.

Adult Education Classes To Start

Registration for first Semester Adult Education Classes will start this week. Adults who are interested and who want to participate in classes that are being offered the first semester by the Appomattox County School Division are requested to register now by calling 352-8253 between the hours of 8:30 - 5:00 or by mailing in a registration form. Please look at the class schedule located elsewhere in this issue of the Times-Virginian for information concerning classes offered.

"It is important that persons pre-register for classes," states R. B. Carter, Coordinator of Adult Education. "Pre registration is used to determine whether enrollment is sufficient to offer a particular class. An enrollment of ten persons is required for a class to be offered."

Persons who desire information concerning an adult class are requested to contact the School Board Office by calling 352-8253.

Band Boosters To Meet Sept. 10

The ACHS Band Boosters will have their first meeting of the 1979-80 school year on Monday, September 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the music room at the high school.

All parents of students in the band program are urged to attend this meeting and join the Band Boosters. Any person, 18 years and older, who is interested in promoting the band, is welcome to join.

Officers of the organization are Edward Leonard, president; Earl Agee, vice president; Mrs. Gladys MacIntosh, secretary; Mrs. Bette Steinkamp, treasurer and Mrs. Becky Leonard, publicity chairperson.